

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 04387 311534Z

46

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 SAJ-01 SS-15 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8768

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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GENEVA FOR CSCE/CORIDAN

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJ: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS (CU/ARTS): DRAMA GROUP FOR 1975

REF: MOSCOW 4205

1. GOSKONTSERT OFFICIALS ARE EXHIBITING A MORE FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE TOWARDS TOUR FOR SAN FRANCISCO A.C.T. IN MID-SEPTEMBER TO MID-OCTOBER TIME PERIOD. GOSKONTSERT FULLY UNDERSTANDS ALL CONCRETE PLANNING OF ADVANCE VISIT, VISIT TO USA BY SOV REP TO REVIEW PLAYS, ITINERARY AND ALL OTHER TOUR DETAILS CONTINGENT ON NOMINATION AND APPROVAL OF SECOND PLAY. THEY CONFIRMED BUTROVA'S STATEMENT THAT "DESIRE" PRESENTS NO PROBLEM, BUT BOTH PLAYS WOULD HAVE TO BE SEEN.

2. RE ITINERARY: GOSKONTSERT PROPOSING NOVOSIBIRSK, ALMA-ATA AND MOSCOW. THIS WOULD BE CONTINGENT ON DEPARTMENT AGREEMENT
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 04387 311534Z

TO BRING GROUP FROM SAN FRANCISCO TO SOVIET FAR EAST. ENTRY

POINT WOULD BE NAKHODKA. GROUP AND PROPERTIES WOULD MOST LIKELY HAVE TO BE FLOWN TO TOKYO AND THEN TRANSPORTED BY BOAT TO NAKHODKA. INTERNALLY, TRANSFERS OF PROPERTIES WOULD BE MADE BY TWO SOVIET CARGO PLANES DEPENDING ON FINAL DETERMINATION OF WEIGHT AND VOLUME OF PROPERTIES. DEPARTURE FROM USSR TO USA WOULD HAVE TO BE FROM MOSCOW.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY FULLY ENDORSES THIS AMBITIOUS PLAN WHICH WOULD BRING AN AMERICAN DRAMATIC THEATER (IN OUR OPINION THE MOST IMPORTANT PERFORMING ARTS CATEGORY FOR EXPOSURE IN USSR) TO SIGNIFICANT POPULATION CENTERS. NOVOSIBIRSK IS SCIENTIFIC CENTER WITH POPULATION METROPOLITAN AREA OF 1,305,000. ALMA-ATA IS REPUBLIC CAPITAL WITH POPULATION OF ALMOST 800,000 AND IS NEAR OTHER POPULATION CENTERS. EMB HAS LONG WANTED TO HAVE MAJOR PAG TOUR THESE CITIES AND WOULD LIKE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY. THEATERS WILL BE CLOSELY EXAMINED.

4. SINCE LENINGRAD WILL MOST LIKELY ENJOY TOURS OF TWO OTHER MAJOR PAGS IN 1975 AND HAS BEEN FREQUENTLY VISITED BY OUR GROUPS, WE SEE JUSTIFICATION FOR BY-PASSING THIS TIME.

5. GOSKONTSERT AGREED ADVANCE VISIT IS ESSENTIAL BUT QUOTE NOT BEFORE END MAY AND NOT LATER UNQUOTE (WHEN THEATERS WILL BE CLOSED).

6. WHAT IS PREFERRED RUSSIAN TRANSLATION FOR A.C.T.? EMBASSY SUGGESTS (IN TRANSLITERATED RUSSIAN): SAN-FRANTSISKO DRAMTEATR. ADVISE.
STOESSEL

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